



Governor Kim Reynolds

Lt. Governor Adam Gregg

San Wong, Director

JUVENILE JUSTICE ADVISORY COUNCIL

"To advocate for an effective, fair and equitable justice system for every Iowa youth."

MINUTES OF RETREAT Web-based Meeting via Zoom

Thursday & Friday, September 24-25, 2020

Present: Andrew Allen; Rev. Roy Klobnak; Megan Adam; Christy Burkhardt; Hon. Susan Cox; Patrick Garcia; Stephanie Hernandez; Kristin Hixenbaugh; Chad Jensen; Jeremy Kaiser; Dave McDaniel, Sheriff; Jacob Molitor; Tony Reed; Jennifer Tibbetts; Jeralyn Westercamp; Doug Wolfe

Staff: Steve Michael; Dave Kuker; Scott Musel; Kathy Nesteby; Kayla Powell; Jeff Regula; Julie Rinker

September 24, 2020 – Session 1

Welcome and Introductions

Andrew Allen, Chair, welcomed all in attendance. A quorum was present. Due to COVID-19 and social distancing concerns, this Retreat was held virtually.

Allen thanked Meg Williams and Kia Jackson for providing technical assistance. Allen noted shifts in juvenile justice and child welfare due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Framing the Three-Year Plan

Meg Williams facilitated the two-day Retreat. She and CJJP staff laid the groundwork for Council members by providing an outline of the requirements of the federal Juvenile Justice Reform Act and presented juvenile justice-related data on Iowa youth.

Williams asked members to consider the following when developing priority areas:

- What programs work and meet needs?
- Remove anecdotal considerations and focus on actual data.
- Normal adolescent behavior and the developmental process—How does Iowa utilize adolescent development knowledge?
- What strategies are in place to match Risk/Needs/Responsivity
- Understand the differences in girls vs. boys
- How does Iowa utilize adolescent development knowledge?
- How should youth be held accountable for their actions?

2018-2020 Priorities and Progress

Williams reviewed juvenile justice grants/efforts and technical assistance awarded to Iowa.

CJJP staff reviewed current allocations and spending by each judicial district and summarized current statewide efforts such as SPEP (Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol) and juvenile re-entry. LaTasha DeLoach and Jennifer Tibbetts reviewed efforts on DMC and female equity, respectively.

Scott Musel reviewed compliance monitoring efforts with regard to the JJRA. New requirements relate to youth held in adult jails who are waived to adult court. He has met with sheriffs, jail administrators, and detention directors regarding this requirement. CJJP will pre-file a bill to insure that Iowa maintains compliance. Iowa has been in compliance for a number of years and, even with the pandemic, he continues to visit facilities to conduct compliance monitoring.

Williams suggested members consider focusing on a specific part of the juvenile justice system, decision point, and/or the most important priorities for the system and populations represented, such as recidivism, assessment of Iowa's strengths and issues, and funding.

Adjourn until 1:00 PM

The meeting recessed at 10:58 a.m.

September 24, 2020 – Session 2

Allen called the meeting back to order at 1:02 p.m. A quorum was present.

Williams and CJJP staff reviewed current delinquency data, trends, and funding.

Possible Priorities Discussion

Steve Michael suggested that members consider the following themes:

- racial justice,
- how to reduce disparities,
- effects of COVID—what is working well, what isn't; practices that should be continued, additional needs,
- pre-charge diversion,
- technical violations,
- adult waiver and recommendations from the Justice Advisory Board,
- data/research/analysis related to the above areas.

Hon. Susan Cox noted concerns related to tribal communities and preventing CINA youth from moving into the juvenile justice system.

Williams reviewed the focus for the next day's meeting. By the end of that day, members will identify priorities and vote on them. She asked members to consider their workgroup preference based on subject matter.

Adjourn until next day, 9:00 AM

The meeting recessed at 3:01 p.m.

September 25, 2020 – Session 1

Andrew Allen welcomed all in attendance at 9:02 a.m. A quorum was present.

**Review Accomplishments
Goal Setting Parameters**

Staff reviewed a variety of recently compiled data and recommendations related to disparity.

**Score Proposed Priorities
Establish Workgroups to Address Priorities
Development of Goals, Objectives, Activities, and Success measures for Each Priority**

Members identified and later voted through Survey Monkey on the following priority areas:

1. Effective/Promising Practices
2. MH/SA/Trauma
3. DMC
4. Female Equity
5. Transition Age Youth
6. Prevention/Intervention

Adjourn until 1:00 PM

The meeting recessed at 12:48 to allow time to complete the survey.

September 25, 2020 – Session 2

In the absence of Andrew Allen, Roy Klobnak, Vice Chair, called the meeting back to order at 1:07 p.m. A quorum was present.

Review Morning Activities

Williams reviewed the results of the survey. Priority areas were ranked in the following order:

1. Prevention & Intervention
2. Effective & Promising Practices
3. Mental Health
4. Transition Age Youth
5. Female Equity

Members discussed the importance of the following:

- Mental health and substance abuse and the effects on juvenile justice youth,
- Using a racial/equity lens to consider how youth of color may be impacted,

- Female equity and advocacy to change and educate those who serve girls.

Nestey suggested removing “Effective & Promising Practices” and focus on the remaining four priority areas.

Members met virtually in small groups based on priority area. Following their small group breakout session, each group provided a summary as follows:

Presentation from Each Workgroup on its Priority Finalization of Priorities for 2021-2023

Priority 1: Prevention and Intervention

Goal 1: Identify and Evaluate Programs that are effective, with goal of determining how to further their success in future (next three year plan)

- Who would be part of work – AEA, schools, service providers (including mental health, substance abuse, behavioral health, residential), community members, youth voice – specifically one that was been system involved, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Court-Appointed Advocates (CASA), YMCA/YWCA, Boys & Girls Club
- Protective and risk factors (OJJDP Study)
- Identify leading programs in Iowa, Midwest, and nation
- How to evaluate programs, look at 10 current programs, what % of community are entering program, graduating, future JJ involvement. Try to determine which are effective and ways to replicate, support, expand.
- Need to review literature about age to work with, but initial response is 6 – 10. DHS seems to get more hands off as the youth get older, by the time youth are getting to 10-12 they may already have a handful of charges.
- How could Family First be involved inform our work (CQI process)?
- Keeping racial, female equity and trauma-informed lens on the project.
- Service gap analysis in communities, across judicial districts.
- Assessment to ensure that programs are serving right kids, right program at right time.
- Restorative justice programs, even potentially for this age group.

Goal 2: Intervention, pre-arrest diversion.

Priority 2: Mental Health

Goal 1: Provide mental health, substance abuse, and family therapy services to those who need it

- At intake, conduct screenings and assessments for mental health, substance abuse, and family trauma.
- Enroll family and youth in appropriate services based on screening and assessment results.
- Recommend that JCS adopt use of the Iowa Delinquency Assessment or another assessment tool for mental health needs.
- Collaborate with other groups working in the areas of DMC and mental health.

Goal 2: Collect data on the following to measure success.

- Iowa Delinquency Assessment and/or
- Identify assessment tool for mental health needs
- Identify number of beds available, number of beds filled
- Identify the number of youth who successfully complete out-patient therapy
- Recidivism
- Length of time in JJ system

Priority 3: Transition of Youth

Goal 1: Grace Period through Extended Jurisdiction

- Availability of data
- Connecting youth to services
- Stop waiving youth
- Define transition
- Need for support for youth
- Some stigma re: waiver
- 50% recid. on waived youth
- Other CJJP data reports

Goal 2: Look to reduce waiver, particularly for older youth.

Priority 4: Female Equity

Goal 1: Make sure that a female and racial equity lens is intentionally used in all areas.

- Train the JJAC on female and racial equity
 - Collect information on who participated in the training—members and staff
- Leverage JJAC funding to require female and racial equity training

Goal 2: State Training School Level of Care

- Continue to push Deep End recommendations (former priority)
 - Engagement of legislative champions to overcome resistance to this level of care.
 - Implementation of any of the recommendations from the IGJI report
 - Additional funding for staff support
 - Continue revamp of our cornerstone publication regarding using the female-responsive approach. “Healing Justice”. Use it to push Female-Responsive Approach as best practice
 - Pipeline into the system - especially for black girls
 - Making sure the female lens is used in all things and is intersectional
 - Assess and review data related to prevention and intervention services for females (side by side with males)
 - Fund Female-responsive services (evidence-based)

Congratulations & Thank You/Completion of Feedback Survey and Adjourn

Williams congratulated members for taking the time to identify priority areas. She asked that a feedback survey be completed.

The meeting adjourned at 3:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Julie Rinker, Administrative Secretary